

10/586381

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 JUL 2005

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Claude Dufresne, *et al.*

Serial No.: To be assigned Case No.: MC102P

Art Unit:

Filed: Herewith

Examiner:

For: NITRIC OXIDE RELEASING PRODRUGS OF  
DIARYL-2-(5H)-FURANONES AS  
CYCLOOXYGENASE-2 INHIBITORS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the U.S. National phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1) (a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**REMARKS** begin on page 3 of this paper.